Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 29. Canceled.

30. (Previously presented) A method in a base station for aligning a field unit comprising:

receiving a reverse link signal from a field unit;

determining a gross timing offset with respect to reverse link channels from other field units sharing the same reverse link logical channel;

calculating a metric associated with the received reverse link signal; and

selectively determining based on said metric whether said base station should control the alignment of said field unit.

31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 30 further comprising:

transmitting a message to other base stations whether said base station is going to control the alignment of said field unit.

32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 31 further comprising:

reporting said timing offset in the form of a timing command.

33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 31 further comprising:

causing said reverse link signal to be orthogonally aligned with the signals from said at least one other field unit on the reverse link logical channel.

34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 33 further comprising:

determining a power level of the reverse link signal; and

providing feedback of the power level to the field unit in the form of a power command or a power message.

35. (Previously presented) The method of claim 30, wherein said base station does not control the alignment of said field unit.

36. (Previously presented) The method of claim 35 further comprising:

transmitting a message to other base stations that said base station is not going to control the alignment of said field unit.

37. (Previously presented) The method of claim 36, wherein said determination of said base station not to control said alignment is based on at least one of the following criteria: (a) a metric of the transmission path between the field unit and at least one of the other base stations exceeds a threshold for a predetermined timespan, (b) a metric of the transmission path between the field unit and at least one of the other base stations exceeds a threshold relative to a metric of a transmission path between said base station and the field unit for a predetermined timespan, (c) a metric of the transmission path between said base station and the field unit drops below an absolute metric, and (d) a metric of the transmission path between at least one of the other base stations and the field unit exceeds an absolute metric.

38. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the metric includes at least one of the following: (a) power, (b) signal-to-noise ratio (SNR), (c) variance of the power, (d) variance of the SNR, (e) between the orthogonally aligned path an non-orthogonally aligned paths between the given field unit and said base station and said other base stations, relative ratio of the (i) power, (ii) SNR, (iii) variance of the power, or (iv) variance of the SNR, (f) bit error rate, and (g) energy per chip divided by the interference density (Ec/Io).